

Message Text

SECRET

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /058 W

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O 070944Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7106

SECRET MANILA 9829

FROM USDEL 74

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS: QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY
AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ JUNE 21

REF: BAGUIO 0029

1. ON JULY 6, ROMUALDEZ ASKED ME WHEN HE COULD EXPECT
ANSWER TO HIS LETTER OF JUNE 21 TRANSMITTED REFTEL. I
REPEATED MY EARLIER STATEMENT THAT ANSWER WOULD REQUIRE
TIME FOR INTERAGENCY CLEARANCE.

2. ON JULY 7, AFTER TALKING WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS,
ROMUALDEZ REPEATED HIS REQUEST. HE SAID THAT THE QUESTIONS
IN THE LETTER WERE NOT HIS, BUT HAD BEEN WRITTEN OUT BY
PRESIDENT MARCOS. HE ADMITTED THAT MANY OF THEM HAD BEEN
ANSWERED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY OUR VARIOUS DISCUSSIONS,
BRIEFINGS, AND VISITS. NEVERTHELESS, THE PRESIDENT WAS
ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPLY.

3. COMMENT: ROMUALDEZ SUGGESTED, AT ONE POINT, THAT SIZE
OF PHILIPPINE REQUEST FOR "DEFENSE SUPPORT" WOULD DEPEND
IN SOME MEASURE ON ASSESSMENT OF PHILIPPINE UNILATERAL
DEFENSE OBLIGATIONS DEDUCED FROM THIS LETTER. I SAID THAT
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PHILIPPINE BUDGETARY AND ECONOMIC ABILITY TO SUSTAIN

FORCES AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE FAR MORE CONTROLLING, AND
MATTER WAS DROPPED. IT WAS PRESUMABLY INTRODUCED AS
AN ALIBI FOR CONTINUING SORRY PHILIPPINE PERFORMANCE IN
PROVIDING FIGURES FOR ARTICLE XIX QUID.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IF PROPERLY STATED, LETTER CAN BE
USEFUL IN WHITTLING DOWN WHATEVER FIGURE OF "DEFENSE
SUPPORT" MAY EMERGE FROM PHILS. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN I MAY
EXPECT TO RECEIVE TEXT.

SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUL 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANILA09829
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760261-0415
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760784/aaaacvyp.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHILIPPINE BASE NEGOTIATIONS: QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY AMBASSADOR ROMUALDEZ JUNE 21
TAGS: MARR, PDIP, RP, US, (ROMUALDEZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006